

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT
OF WORKINGTON

Annual Report

OF THE

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1961

BY

JAMES L. HUNTER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Workington,
February, 1962.*

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MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. H. McMANUS

(Workington Borough)

COUNCILLOR E. BARRACLOUGH (Workington Borough)

„ J. BROWN (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

„ A. H. DUNN (Workington Borough)

„ W. W. JARDINE (Workington Borough)

„ T. McCracken (Ennerdale R.D.C.)

„ J. C. MOORE (Workington Borough)

„ J. STANGER (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER (Workington Borough)

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON.

February, 1962.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Workington Port Health Authority.*

Mr. Chairman and Members,

My Annual Report for the year 1961 has been prepared in the form and sequence required by the Ministry of Health Form Port 20 dated October, 1952.

The health of seamen arriving in vessels to the Port has been good, and no case of infectious disease was reported.

The number of vessels entering the Port decreased by 80 as compared with the previous year. The majority of foreign-going vessels are of modern construction and design, with amenities such as separate cabins, wash basins, comfortable chairs and beds, recreation rooms, baths and showers. Many have plants for processing sea water to drinking water.

Many coastwise vessels still lack essential amenities.

It is pleasing to report the absence of rats and other vermin in vessels entering the Port.

No foodstuff was imported during the year.

SECTION I—STAFF.

TABLE A.

<i>Name of Officer.</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment.</i>	<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Qualifications.</i>	<i>Any other Appointments held.</i>
George McKay Porter	Clerk.	March, 1959	Solicitor.	Town Clerk, Borough of Workington.
James L. Hunter	Port Medical Officer of Health.	July, 1950	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Workington. Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Cumberland County Council.
Ronald E. Fletcher	Deputy Port Medical Officer.	October, 1941	M.B., Ch.B.	Private Practitioner.
Richard James	Port Health Inspector.	February, 1933	Cert. R.S.I. and S.I. Joint Board. Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods.	Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.
Charles E. Pearson	Assistant Port Health Inspector.	November, 1948	Cert. R.S.I. and S.I. Joint Board.	Assistant Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.

Address and Telephone Number of the

Medical Officer of Health:—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL, WORKINGTON.
PHONE: WORKINGTON 3085.

SECTION II.

SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

<i>Ships from.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Number Inspected.</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>By the Port Health Inspectors.</i>	
Foreign Ports	85	192,037	15	85	Nil
Coastwise	379	96,157	Nil	357	Nil
Total	464	288,194	15	442	Nil

SECTION III.

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic.

Number of passengers Inwards 15

Number of passengers Outwards Nil

(In addition three stowaways arrived).

Cargo Traffic.

Imports, especially ores, steeply declined during the year. During 1961, 588,909 tons were shipped as compared with 1,046,696 tons for the previous year.

Iron and Manganese Ores 510,146 tons

Petroleum 57,923 tons

Pig Iron 6,045 tons

Scrap Ingot Moulds 4,475 tons

Scrap Steel 4,076 tons

Bricks and Ganister 3,416 tons

Coking Coal 2,711 tons

General Cargo 117 tons

588,909 tons

Exports slightly decreased, 92,978 tons as compared with 101,084 tons in 1960.

Ingot Moulds	...	...	...	25,189 tons
Rails	...	...	...	14,350 tons
Sleepers	...	...	...	12,511 tons
Billets	...	...	...	11,404 tons
Soleplates	...	...	...	8,827 tons
Pig Iron	...	...	...	5,471 tons
Pitch	...	...	...	4,910 tons
Tar	...	...	...	4,752 tons
Fishplates	...	...	...	1,939 tons
Fillerbricks	...	...	...	1,393 tons
General Cargo	...	...	...	714 tons
				<hr/> 92,978 tons <hr/>

Ports from which Ships arrived.

Foreign—85.

Algeria	...	...	...	Algiers	...	...	...	2
				Bona	...	...	...	11
Egypt (Red Sea)	...	...	...	Abu-Zenina	...	...	...	2
France	...	...	...	Blaye	...	...	...	1
Holland	...	...	...	Ymuiden	...	...	...	6
India	...	...	...	Vizagapatam	...	...	...	1
Norway	...	...	...	Kirkenes	...	...	...	30
				Moi-Rana	...	...	...	8
				Hommelvik	...	...	...	1
Russia (Black Sea)	...	...	...	Poti	...	...	...	2
Spain	...	...	...	Almeria	...	...	...	3
				La Calera	...	...	...	4
				Mazarron	...	...	...	1
Spanish North Africa	...	...	...	Melilla	...	...	...	2
Sweden	...	...	...	Oskarshamn	...	...	...	4
				Otterbacken	...	...	...	1
				Oxelosund	...	...	...	5
Ghana	...	...	...	Takoradi	...	...	...	1

Coastwise—379.

Annan	1	Irvine	1
Ardrossan	3	Limerick	1
Arklow	1	Liverpool	36
Avonmouth	2	Londonderry	6
Bangor	1	Magramorne	1
Barrow	10	Manchester	4
Barry	1	Newport	1
Belfast	35	Newry	2
Birkenhead	53	Partington	3
Bootle	1	Plymouth	1
Carrickfergus	2	Port Ellen	1
Connah's Quay	1	Preston	7
Douglas	2	Runcorn	4
Dover	2	Sharpness	2
Drogheda	2	Silloth	6
Dublin	15	Sligo	1
Ellesmere Port	1	Southampton	4
Fishing Grounds	21	Stanlow	60
Galway	1	Warrington	1
Garston	2	Waterford	2
Glasgow	9	Weston Point	1
Glasson Dock	3	Whitehaven	3
Greenock	18	Wicklow	1
Heysham	28	Widnes	1
Holyhead	11	From Sea	3

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no inland barge traffic.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

Vessels are supplied with drinking water from hydrants situated on the dockside. Water is from the West Cumberland Water Board and the source of supply is Crummock Lake which has a gathering area of 25 square miles.

The water is reasonably soft (11.8 parts hardness per million) and is of a high degree of purity, proved by regular chemical and bacteriological examinations during the year. Treatment of the water is by chlorination and addition of lime.

No water boats are used.

Routine enquiries are made on all vessels as to the source of the existing drinking water supplies and the frequency of cleaning out of water tanks. During the year samples of water from seven vessels proved satisfactory. A

sample from a French vessel proved bacteriologically unsatisfactory owing to the presence of faecal coliform organisms. Following emptying, cleansing and refilling of the storage tanks a further sample was taken and proved satisfactory.

SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6). The Pilots and H.M. Customs are supplied with up-to-date lists of Ports and other areas which are infected or believed to be infected with quarantinable diseases. These lists are prepared from information received from the World Health Organisation.

Radio Messages. In accordance with Regulations 13 and 14 (1a and 2), the Dock Office of the Workington Harbour and Dock Board deal with this matter and pass on any information.

Notifications otherwise than by radio. When ships are not equipped with suitable radio transmitting apparatus (Regulation 14 (1) (b)) messages are transmitted via the Pilots meeting the vessel off the Port.

Mooring Stations (Regulations 22 to 30). The arrangements made under the old Regulations still apply in respect of mooring stations for infected or suspected ships, i.e., Workington Roads off entrance to the Port; breasted off the Quay at the place of mooring, discharge or loading; or the allotted berth in the Prince of Wales Dock.

The Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox) is provided by the West Cumberland Group of Hospitals according to indications and the local epidemic conditions.

Surveillance and follow up of contacts. When the occasion arises daily visits are made to the vessel concerned. If members of the crew should leave vessels, notifications would be sent to the Medical Officers of the districts concerned.

Disinfection of ships and articles is carried out by Port Health Officers. Articles for steam disinfection, and persons requiring cleansing, are dealt with at one of the Hospitals.

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX.

Cases of smallpox would be sent to the Langley Hospital, County Durham.

Transport to Hospital is the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. The vaccinal state of the ambulance crews is satisfactory and under constant review.

The Smallpox Consultant locally is Dr. J. Simpson, Medical Specialist, Workington Infirmary (Telephone No. Workington 2244. Other Bacteriologists or Consultants available would probably be Dr. J. S. Faulds and Dr. D. G. Davies at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle (Telephone No. Carlisle 22332). Outside the County the services of Dr. Wilson Minies, Deputy County Medical Officer, Northumberland, and Dr. James Grant, Medical Officer of Health, Gateshead, might also be available.

Laboratory diagnostic facilities. These are available through the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies.

SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE.

Seamen suffering from Venereal Disease can receive free confidential treatment from a Local Medical Practitioner appointed by the Regional Hospitals Board. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. daily excepting Sundays, and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily excepting Sundays and Thursdays.

Treatment can also be obtained at the Whitehaven Infirmary, and the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.

Routine enquiries are made on all vessels and information cards are left.

During the year 12 seamen received treatment.

SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

TABLE D.

<i>Category.</i>	<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Number of cases during the year.</i>		<i>Number of ships concerned.</i>
		<i>Passengers.</i>	<i>Crew.</i>	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	—	—	—	—
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	—	—	—	—
Cases landed from other ships	—	—	—	—

On eight vessels cases of sickness or injuries were reported by the respective Masters on arrival:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Complaint.</i>	<i>Treatment.</i>
Norwegian	Influenza	Local Medical Practitioner.
British	Injured Ribs	Hospital.
French	Influenza	Local Medical Practitioner.
French	Influenza	Local Medical Practitioner.
Norwegian	Acute Renal Colic	Hospital.
French	Injured foot	Hospital.
British	Head injury	Hospital.
British	Cirrhosis of liver	Discharged. Proceeded home.
British	Teeth	Dentist.
British	Stomach	Local Medical Practitioner.

SECTION X—OBSERVATION ON THE OCCURRENCES OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

No case of malaria has been reported during the year.

All foreign-going vessels carry Paludrine and other anti-malarial drugs, and regular doses are issued to the crew prior to reaching known mosquito-infested areas.

SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

There has been no occasion to take action under this Section.

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

All vessels are automatically inspected for the presence of rats. Test baits and traps are periodically laid. Rat guards are available.

Rats for plague examination would be sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Carlisle. During the year no rats have been found on ships.

Cabins and buildings on the dock premises have also been inspected. One slight infestation received attention.

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

<i>Category.</i>	<i>Number</i>
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	Nil
Infected with plague	Nil

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION
CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS
FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

<i>Number of Derating Certificates issued.</i>					<i>Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.</i>	<i>Total Certificates issued.</i>
<i>After fumigation with</i>						
<i>H.C.N.</i>	<i>Other fumigant.</i>	<i>After Trapping.</i>	<i>After Poisoning.</i>	<i>Total.</i>		
—	—	—	—	—	14	14

In addition 9 Rodent Control Certificates were issued in accordance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.

SECTION XIII INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

TABLE G.

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

<i>Notices served.</i>				<i>Result of serving Notices.</i>
<i>Nature and Number of Inspections.</i>	<i>Statutory Notices.</i>	<i>Other Notices.</i>		
British 296	Nil	42		2 vessels attention next port. Remainder carried out.
Foreign 126	Nil	13		3 vessels attention next port. Remainder carried out.
422	Nil	55		

The 55 notices cover the following defects, nuisances or other conditions prejudicial to health:—

	<i>Other</i>		
	<i>British.</i>	<i>Nationalities.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Water tanks to clean	1	2	1 Norwegian. 1 French.
Leaking deck (above accommodation)	—	1	Spanish.
Insufficient ventilation	2	1	Spanish.
Defective ports	1	1	Spanish.
Leaking steampipe	1	—	
Choked scuppers, lack of splash boards, etc.	19	6	3 Norwegian. 2 Swedish. 1 French.
Broken wash basins	2		
Defective showers	2	—	
Defective sanitary fittings	5	2	1 Spanish. 1 French.
Defective vegetable locker	—	1	French.
Dirty sanitary conveniences ...	5	3	1 Spanish. 1 Dutch. 1 Danish.
Dirty quarters	4	1	Spanish.
Dirty messrooms	2	—	
Dirty washrooms	2	—	
Dirty galleys	1	1	French.
Dirty provision storerooms ...	—	2	2 Spanish.
	47	21	

The number of vessels that entered the Port during 1961 was 464, a decrease of 80 as compared with the previous year.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Total Net Tonnage.</i>
1952	491	320,710
1953	533	344,134
1954	504	391,962
1955	578	355,141
1956	540	351,731
1957	608	377,009
1958	503	313,097
1959	418	303,251
1960	544	475,216
1961	464	288,194

The numbers by nationalities of the vessels entering the Port were as follows:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>No. of Ships</i>			
British	323
Danish	5
Dutch	61
Finnish	1
French	6
German	14
Norwegian	43
Republic of Ireland	1
Spanish	4
Swedish	6
				<hr/> 464 <hr/>

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH)
REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.
The Port is not approved for the landing of Aliens.

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS.

No death has occurred on board ships during the year. In the event of a death, and after reporting to the Coroner, co-operation with the Shipping Agent would take place. Past arrangements have always worked satisfactory.

One notice was served under the Parrots and Miscellaneous Birds (Prohibition of Importation) Order, 1953.

The foreshore under the jurisdiction of the Authority has been periodically inspected. The carcase of one sheep was removed and destroyed.

The various Regulations have continued to work smoothly, and there has been no prosecution during the year.

I wish to record my appreciation to Mr. J. Z. Bridgewater, Secretary and Manager to the Workington Harbour and Dock Company Limited, and his Staff, for the assistance rendered during the year to your Port Health Inspectors and myself. To the Staff of the Port Health Authority I also tender my thanks.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Port Medical Officer.

Cumberland Star Ltd.

